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The 2016 Ballot

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Black Votes Matter
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Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter

The 2016 Ballot

By now many of you have received your ballots and in fact already have voted. The forecast from the election commission is that over 40% of our voters will vote early. This issue of the *Omaha Star* will surface to its readers October 22nd. By now the deadline for voter registration will have passed, except in person at the Election Commission. (225 N 115th). By now there is only one week left until a request for an early ballot can be received (October 28th).

My message is directed to those of you who still have not voted, those of you who are “sitting” on your ballot, those of you who are yet to receive an early ballot and those who plan to vote at the polls. Time out for those of you who plan not to vote. A vote for Trump is a vote for Trump, a vote for Clinton is a vote for Clinton, not voting is a vote for Trump. If you are comfortable with that no vote, then less power to you.

My message is simple:

1. Realize that this election may be the most important of your lifetime, don't intellectualize, just vote. Vote for you and your community's best interest.
2. Before voting do research on the candidates (voter guides are available at the *Star*). There are slates available from Black Votes Matter, The Nebraska Democratic Party Black Caucus and others.
3. For research on the Judges goto: America Bar Association's (ABA) website. There is a comprehensive evaluation of the judges by Lawyers who have gone before the various judges.
4. Vote all of the Ballot. From top to bottom.
5. If you are an ex-felon and you have been off paper and out of prison for two years or more you can register and vote
6. Recommendation: vote RETAIN on the death penalty issue and vote Yes on the Bond Referendum
7. If you need a ride to the polls, voter assistance or have questions call 402-575-0144
8. If you need to register or to obtain an application for early voting, we will deliver the items to you, call 402-575-0144
9. Recognize that Black Votes Matter.
10. If you want to volunteer to help get the north Omaha vote out, come visit the Black Votes Matter/Drive2Vote office at 4805 N 72nd (Goodwill Building)

*To review previous Black Votes Matter column articles visit **Omahastar.com**. Or **prestonlovejr.com**. Preston love can be reached at **prestonlovejr@gmail.com***